



C. E. F.



# Brief History of The Battalion

## FRANCE & FLANDERS

• 1916-18 •

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FOREWORD

Brooks, Alberta.  
28th January 1938.

Authority came from Ottawa between September and October 1915 for The Organization of the 1st Pioneer Battalion to be recruited from the troops then training at Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary & Winnipeg, the first H.Q. being established at the Minto Barracks, Winnipeg, where the Battalion was organized, outfitted and equipped for overseas, where they arrived December 1915. ✓

The Battalion was formed to strengthen the Engineering Branch of the Service and immediately on arriving in France it became engaged in Front Line activities and continued same until the end of the war.

W, Tait White, Maj.

Leaving Winnipeg Nov. 16th., 1915 for Montreal by C.P.R. where we embarked on C.P. S.S. "Metagama" on Nov. 19th, passing Cape Race on Nov. 25th, 1915. After an uneventful voyage arriving at Plymouth Nov. 30th, proceeding to Hounslow Heath near London Dec. 1, 1915, to Feb. 14, 1916. From this point the Battalion went to Digby where further training was engaged in until embarkation from Folkestone for Boulogne on March 9th, and camped at Osterhove Camp until March 11th, at that date going via Calais, St. Omer and Bailleul to Neuve Eglise and billeted at Aldershot Huts to March 26th. From here the Battalion marched to Poperinghe through Godewaersvelde the H.Q. being established at "Pop" and the various Companies going to billets in Ypres. H.Q. was moved to Busseboom June 7th, all Companies still being engaged in work in the Salient out of Ypres.

The Battalion marched 30 miles to Serques arriving Aug. 15th, and after a short rest entraining at St. Omer and detraining at Candass again marching by easy stages to Senlis near Albert Sept. 1st, later occupying dugouts in the old front line west of Albert where we remained working out from here to the front line near Pozieres until going out for a rest at Senlis on Sept. 25th. On Oct. 2nd, we again returned to Avoca Valley and were there until Oct. 15th. During the period from Sept. 1st, to October 15th, (the Somme Offensive) the Battalion with the Canadian Divisions engaged in work of deepening communication trenches, burying signal cables and maintenance of narrow gauge railway, also during the capture of Courcellette dug a trench beyond Pozieres to the new front line at the Sugar Refinery and later during the battle of Ancre Heights digging communication trenches at night N.E. of Courcellette and front line improvements west of Le Sars.

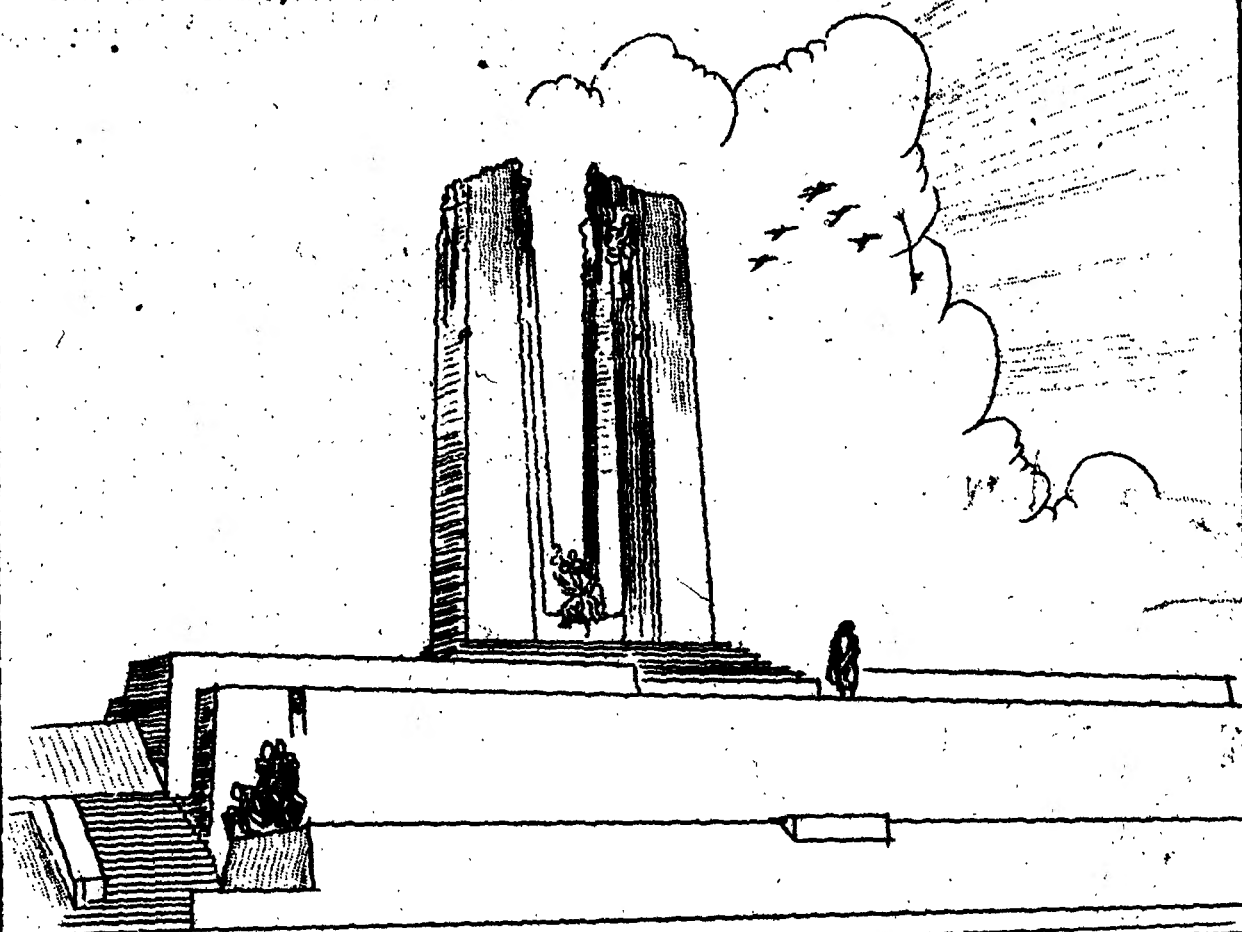
The Battalion then marched north via Warloy, Baillon; La Vicogne, Bonneville, Montigny-les-Jongleurs, Bonnières and Berlencourt and arrived at Marquay Oct. 23rd, later proceeding to Villers-au-Bois where we again joined the Canadian Divisions on the Vimy front, during this time we engaged in construction of deep dugouts under Vimy Ridge and maintained railways and also trenches at Souchez and Zouave Valley.

After Dec. 14th, 1916, the Battalion functioned as Railway Troops and chief employment during January, February and March was construction of narrow gauge railway from Larbret and Wanquetin running easterly via Simencourt, Borneville, Dainville and St. Nicolas towards Roclincourt (north of Arras). During April, May & June light railway was pushed forward from railheads at Beaumetz-les-loges and Achiet-le-Grand to serve areas south and south east of Arras. From a perusal of the Battalion war diary the designation 9th, C.R.T. does not appear until May 15th, 1917. Battalion entrained at Achiet-le-Grand and moved North back to Poperinghe on July 4th, 1917, later going to Woesten Woods and leaving there Aug. 11th, for Pioneer Camp midway between Vlameninghe and Dickebusch where we remained until Sept. 27th. At this time Battalion made headquarters at Proven with B., C. and D. Companies at Berques and A. Company at West Cappal until Oct. 14th. The Battalion returned to Pioneer Camp working on light railways out of Ypres to Nov. 21st. During period from Oct. 30th, to Nov. 20th, in Ypres sector the casualties were particularly heavy. After the Passchendaele Offensive the Battalion entrained for rest billets at Frohen-le-Grand remaining there until Dec. 21st, when we again returned to Poperinghe again working on light railways until Feb. 1st, 1918.

At this time the Battalion moved by train to Aohiet-le-Grand via Arras and worked in the sector between Arras and Bapaume. Battle of Bapaume March 24th - 25th, forced withdrawal of H.Q., A. and C. Companies to Thievres where we assisted in digging a new defence line. The other two Companies were not affected by the enemy advance and continued their work on light railways.

After this date the movements of the Battalion as a Battalion ceased and the history shows that from this time on each Company moved separately following the Advance until Nov. 15th, when the Battalion again assembled at St. Ghislain staying there until Dec. 22nd, when we entrained for Etaples. Half of Battalion left Etaples for England on Dec. 25th, 1918.

Lt. Col. A.E. Hodgins was the first C.O. of the Battalion succeeded after the Somme by Lt. Col. F.A. Macdonell, D.S.O. who in turn was succeeded by Lt. Col. W.H. Moodie, D.S.O.



## Vimy Ridge Memorial

# MOVEMENTS AND BILLETS

## Battalion H.Q.

Macaulay Plains, Victoria B. C., to September 23rd, 1915.

Hastings Park, Vancouver B. C., to October 16th, 1915.

Minto St. Drill Hall, Winnipeg, Man., to November 16th, 1915.

Embarked C.P.S.S. Metagama Montreal, Nov. 19th, 1915. Pass Cape Race, November 23rd.

Arrive Plymouth & Hounslow, November 30th.

Hounslow Heath December 1st to February 14th, 1916.

Dibgate, February 14th to March 9th.

Embark Folkstone and arrive Boulogne Osterhove Camp, March 9th, 1916.

Neuve Eglise Albershot Huts March 11th - 29th.

Poperinghe April 1st - June 7th.

Busseboom June 7th - August 12th.

Serques August 15th - 27th.

Senlis September 1st - 4th.

Becourt September 4th - 25th.

Senlis September 25th - October 2nd.

Becourt October 2nd - 15th.

Villers-au-Bois, October 27th - December 15th.

Wanquentin December 15th - May 12th, 1917.

Dainville, May 13th - June 9th.

Behagnies, June 10th - July 4th.

Woesten Woods, July 5th-August 11th.

Pioneer Camp, August 11th-September 27th.

Proven, September 22nd - October 14th.

Pioneer Camp, October 14th - November 21st.

Frohen-le-Grand, November 23rd-December 21st.

Vlamertinghe, December 22nd - 1917-February 1st, 1918.

Behagnies, February 2nd-March 22-23.

Bucquoy, March 23rd to 25th.

Beaumontz-les-Loges, March 25th-26th.  
(5½ miles S.W. Arras.)

Thievres, March 26th - April 6th.

Larbret, April 6th - August 5th.  
(Between Doullens and Arras)

Sarton, August 5th-September 10th.  
(5½ miles S.E. by E. Doullens)

Behagnies, September 10th - 15th.

Esnes October 21st - October 23rd.  
(6½ miles S. E. Cambria)

Rieux, October 23rd - November 15th.

St. Ghislain, November 15th - December 22nd.  
(6½ miles W. Mons)

# MOVEMENTS AND BILLETS

## "A" COMPANY

Neuve Eglise, March 11th - 29th.

Godewaersvelde, March 29th.

Poperinghe, April 1st - April 10th.  
(Co'y H.Q. Poperinghe to June 9th  
and half Co'y billeted Ypres).

Poperinghe, June 9th - June 15th.

Pioneer Camp, June 16th - June 23rd.

(Boeschepe)

Ypres, June 23rd - July 3rd.

Ypres, July 14th - July 22nd.

Ypres, July 29th - August 10th.

Pioneer Camp, August 10th - 13th.

Watou, August 13th - August 14th.

Serques, August 15th - August 27th.

Senlis, near Albert.

Becourt, Sept. 4th - Sept. 25th.

Senlis, September 25th-October 2nd.

Becourt, October 2nd - October 15th.  
(Avoca Valley)

Marquoy, October 23rd-October 27th.

Villers-au-Bois, October 27th - Dec-  
ember 14th, 1917.

Wanquetin, December 14th - April  
12th, 1918.

(6½ miles W. of Arras)

Wailly, April 12th - May 3rd.

Merqatel, May 3rd - June 20th.

Erwillers, June 20th - July 4th.  
(4 miles north of Bapaume)

Woesten Woods, July 5th-August 11th.  
(1½ miles S.W. of Woesten)

Pioneer Camp, August 11th-September  
30th.

Westcappel, September 30th - Oct-  
ober 15th.

Pioneer Camp, Oct. 15th - Nov. 21st.

Outrebois, November 22nd - 23rd.

Barly, November 23rd - December 1st.

Frohen-le-Grand, December 1st-21st.

Poperinghe, December 22nd - 29th.

St. Jean (Ypres) Dec. 29th, 1917 -  
Feb. 1st, 1918.

Bucquoy, February 2nd - March 24th.  
(6½ miles N.W. by W. of Bapaume)

Beaumont-les-Loges via Monchy-au-  
Bois, March 25th.

Batt'ln H.Q., A & C Co'ys march 14  
miles south westerly via Larbret  
and Pas to Thievres, March 26th.

Thievres, March 26th - April 6th.  
(17 miles W. of Bapaume)

Laherliere, April 6th - July 31st.  
(Larbret)

Beaumont-les-Loges, ½ Co'y. June  
18th - July 31st.

Puchevillers, August 1st - 24th.  
(7 miles S. E. of Doullens)

Bucquoy, August 24th-September 4th.

Vaulx-Vraucourt, Sept. 4th - 15th.

Achiet-le-Grand, Sept. 15th - Sept.  
22nd.

Fremicourt, September 22nd - October  
11th.

Masnieres, October 11th - Oct. 12th.

Near Ligny-en-Cambresis, Oct. 12th -  
Oct. 24th.

St. Aubert, Oct. 24th - Nov. 13th.

St. Ghislain, Nov. 13th - Dec. 22nd.

# MOVEMENTS AND BILLETS

## "B" COMPANY

Neuve Eglise, March 11th-March 29th.

Godewaersvalde, Mar. 29th-Apr. 1st.

Poperinghe, April 1st - April 8th.

Ypres, April 8th - April 25th.

Ypres, May 3rd - May 19th.

Ypres, June 4th - June 9th.

June 10th, 11th, 12th, A, B, & D  
Co'ys 314 all ranks rehearsing Mt.  
Sorrel Attack, June 13th.

Poperinghe, June 14th - June 23rd.

Ypres, July 5th - July 20th.

Ypres, July 26th - August 4th.

Pioneer Camp, August 4th-August 9th.

Wippenhoek, August 9th-August 12th.

Serques, August 15th - August 27th.

Senlis, September 1st-September 4th.

Becourt, October 2nd - October 15th.  
(Avoca Valley)

Marquay, October 23rd-October 27th.

Villers-au-Bois, October 27th - Dec-  
ember 15th.  
(7 miles N. W. of Arras)

Wanquetin, Dec. 15th, 1916 - April  
12th, 1917.

Beaumetz-les-Loges, Apr. 12th - Apr.  
18th.

Neuville Vitasse, April 18th - June  
18th.

LeBucquiere, June 18th - July 4th.  
(8 miles E. of Bapaume)

Brandhoek, July 5th - August 9th.

Pioneer Camp, August 9th - September  
29th.

Proven, September 29th-October 16th.

Outrebois, Nov. 22nd - Nov. 23rd.

Frohen-le-Grand Nov. 23rd-Dec. 21st.

Poperinghe, Dec. 22nd - Dec. 24.

Ypres (N.W. of) Dec. 14th, 1917 -  
Feb. 1st, 1918.

Arras, February 2nd - March 28th.

Berneville, March 26th - June 18th.  
(4½ Miles S.W. of Arras)

Battle of Arras, March 28th caused  
B Company to move billets to Berne-  
ville but it continued same mainte-  
nance on lines to Arras and vicini-  
ty.

Couin, June 18th - August 30th.  
(10 miles N.N.W. of Albert)

Beaussart, August 30th to Sept. 4th.

Boisaleux-au-Mont, Sept. 4th - 21st.

Velu, September 21st - October 9th.  
(6 miles E. of Bapaume)

Heudicourt, Oct. 9th - Oct. 10th.

Awoingt, October 10th-October 16th.  
(2½ miles S. E. of Cambrai)

Naves, Oct. 16th - November 7th.  
(4 miles N. E. of Cambrai)

Witerlant, Nov. 7th - Nov. 13th.

St. Ghislain, Nov. 13th - Nov. 23rd.

Mariette and Wasmuel, Nov. 23rd -  
Dec. 19th.

St. Ghislain, Dec. 19th-Dec. 22nd.

# MOVEMENTS AND BILLETS

## "C" COMPANY

Neuve Eglise, March 11th - 29th.

Godewaersvelde, March 29th.

Poperinghe, April 1st, 2nd.

Ypres, April 2nd - 8th.

Ypres, April 17th - May 3rd.

Ypres, May 10th - June 8th.

Pioneer Camp, June 20th - July 5th.

Ypres, July 5th - 15th.

Pioneer Camp, July 15th - July 19th.

Ypres, July 19th - 27th.

Pioneer Camp, July 27th-August 3rd.

Ypres, August 3rd - August 9th.

"P" Camp, August 9th - August 12th.

Balemberg August 14th - August 15th.

Serques, August 15th - August 27th.

Senlis, Sept. 1st - Sept. 4th.

Becourt, Sept. 4th - Sept. 25th.

Senlis, September 25th-October 2nd.

Becourt, Avoca Valley, Oct. 2nd-15th.

Marquay October 23rd - October 27th.

Villers-cu-Bois, Oct. 27th - Dec. 15th.

Wanquetin, December 15th - 20th.

Agnez-lez-Duisans, Dec. 20th 1916 - Jan. 6th, 1917.

Berneville, January 6th - June 20th.

Mory, June 20th - July 4th.

(3½ miles north of Bapaume)

Woesten Woods, July 5th-August 10th.

Pioneer Camp, Aug. 10th-Sept. 28th.

Berques, September 28th-October 14th.  
(6 miles S.E. of Dunkerque)

Pioneer Camp, Oct. 14th - Nov. 21st.

Barly, November 22nd - December 1st.

Frohen-le-Petit, Dec. 1st - 21st.

Poperinghe, Dec. 22nd - Dec. 28th.

Ypres, (N.E. of) Dec. 28th, 1917 - Feb. 1st, 1918.

Hebuterne, February 2nd-March 21st.  
(9½ miles W. of Bapaume)

Mory & Ervillers, Mar. 21st - 22nd.  
(N. of Bapaume)

Logeast Wood, March 22nd - 25th.  
(N. W. of Bapaume)

Beaumontz-les-Loges, March 25th, 26th.

Thievres, March 26th - April 6th.

Gouy-en-Artois, April 6th.  
(N.E. of Larbret)

Savy (W. of Aubigny) ½ Co'y, Apr. 14th.

Liencourt, April 21st - May 19th.  
(15 Miles W. of Arras)

Hauteville, May 19th. (9 Miles W. of Arras)

Puchevillers, August 1st - 21st.  
(11 miles N.W. by W. of Albert)

Coigneux, (S.E. of) Aug. 21st-26th.

Serre, August 26th - September 4th.  
(8 miles W. of Bapaume)

Hamalincourt, September 4th - 26th.

Ruyaulcourt, Sept. 26th - Oct. 10th.

Awoingt or Wambaix, Oct. 10th-20th.

Avesnes-lez-Aubert, Oct. 20th-Nov. 7th.

Le Quesnoy, November 7th - 13th.

St. Ghislain, November 13th - 16th.

Boussu, November 16th-December 19th.

St. Ghislain, December 19th - 22nd.



# MOVEMENTS AND BILLETS

## "D" COMPANY

Neuve Eglise, March 11th-March 29th.

Godewaersvelde, March 29th.

Poperinghe, April 1st, 2nd.

Ypres, April 2nd - 17th.

Ypres, April 25th - May 11th.

Ypres, May 19th - 30th.

Ypres, May 30th - June 9th.

Ypres, June 11th - 16th.

Poperinghe, June 17th - 24th.

Pioneer Camp, June 24th - July 4th.

Ypres, July 4th - 14th.

Ypres, July 24th - 30th.

Ypres, August 3rd - 9th.

Pioneer Camp(Busseboom)Aug.9th-12th.  
(2 miles S.E. of Poperinghe)

Serques, August 15th - August 27th.

Entrain at Argues or Audruicq with  
H.Q. 1st Division for Candas and  
march via Franqueville la Vicogne,  
and Vadencourt to Senlis.

Becourt, Sept. 4th - Sept. 25th.

Senlis September 25th - October 2nd.

Becourt,Avoca Valley, Oct.2nd-15th.

Marquay, October 23rd-October 27th.

Villers-au-Bois, Oct.27th-Dec.15th.

Wanquetin, December 15th - 22nd.

Agnez-lez-Duisans, Dec. 22nd - Jan.  
6th, 1917.

Simencourt, Jan. 6th - Feb. 10th.

Wanquetin,February 10th-March 15th.

Simencourt,March 15th - April 13th.

St. Vaast, April 13th - May 29th.  
(1½ miles N.W. of Arras)

Boisleux-au-Mt, May 29th-June 29th.

Fremicourt, June 29th - July 4th.  
(2 miles E. of Bapaume)

Brandhoek(700 yds. N.of), July 5th -  
August 8th.

Pioneer Camp,August 8th - Sept. 27th.

Berques,September 27th-October 13th.

Pioneer Camp,October 13th-Nov. 21st.

Early, November 22nd - December 1st.

Frohen-le-Petit, Dec. 1st - 21st.

Vlamertinghe, Dec. 22nd, 1917 - Feb.  
1st, 1918.

Chief construction on trackage in new  
yard near Ypres Asylum.

Essart, February 2nd - 19th.  
(10 miles S. S.W. of Arras)

Beaumontz-les-Loges, Feb. 19th - June  
17th. (6 miles S.W. of Arras)

Except that shelling became active,  
work and billets of "D"Co'y were not  
affected by Enemy advance south of  
Arras, March 21st - 27th.

Bienvillers-au-Bois, June 17th - July  
9th. (10 miles S. W. of Arras)

Beaumontz-les-Loges, July 9th - 23rd.

Grenas, July 23rd - August 28th.  
(5 miles E. of Doullens)

Colincamps, August 26th - Sept. 4th.  
(11 miles W. of Bapaume)

Mercatel, Sept. 4th - Sept. 28th.  
(3 miles S. of Arras)

Bugny,September 28th - October 3rd.  
(4 miles N.E. by E. of Bapaume)

South of Moeuvres,Oct.3rd - Oct.9th.

Velu, October 9th - October 11th.

Maisnieres, Oct. 11th - Oct. 12th.

Caudry, October 12th - October 24th.  
(9 miles S.E. by E. of Cambrai)

St.Python,Solesmes,Oct.24th-Nov.13th.

St. Ghislain, November 13th - 20th.

Hainin, November 20th-December 19th.

St. Ghislain, December 19th - 22nd.

## LOCATION & NATURE OF WORK

**NEUVE ECLISE:** Infantry instruction in Front Line and Trench repairs, etc. Wulverghem, Ploegsteert Sector, 7½ miles S. Ypres.

**POPERINGHE:** Co's alternated between Pop. and Ypres. Forward work between Canal and Zillebeke. Night work on construction of Shell proof emplacements, tunnels, galleries & dugouts. Burying signal cables. Trench Trains, trench repairs, etc. June 13th 214 all ranks, "A", "B", & "D" Co's, Consolidation troops Mt. Sorrel assault.

**SERQUES:** Aug. 15th - 27th. Rest Bill-ets with 2nd Brigade.

**THE SOMME:** September 1st - October 15 Partly night work deepening communication trenches at Pozieres, burying signal cables and maintenance of 60 c.m. Railway. 410 men dug trench beyond Pozieres on Sept. 15th during capture of Courcellette. Trench work at night continued N.E. of Pozieres. Digging trenches N.E. of Courcellette and Front Line improvements W. of Le Sars.

**VILLERS-AU-BOIS:** Behind Vimy Construction of deep dugouts, 60 c.m. railway, and Trench repairs at Souchez and Zouave Valley, 6 miles N. of Arras.

**WANQUETIN:** Dec. 15th, 1916 - May 12th 1917 Construction of Standard Gauge Railway from Wanquetin N. towards Frevin Capelle: Dec. 16th - 22nd. Dec. 22nd, Construction of 60 c.m. Railway to serve Arras sector which functioned for Battles of Arras, commencing with Vimy Ridge, April 9th - 14th.

**DAINVILLE:** May 13th - June 9th. During June a light Railway was constructed S. E. of Arras and N. E. of Bapaume to serve the Bullecourt Sector.

**WOESTEN WOODS:** July 5th - August 11th. Work on light railway N.W. of Ypres

which functioned for Battle of Pilkem Ridge, July 31st - August 1st.

**PIONEER CAMP:** August 11th - September 27th, on railway S. Ypres towards Zillebeke and Verbrandenmolen. Severe shelling on lines about Zillebeke Lake.

**PROVEN, WESTCAPPEL, BERGUES:** Sept. 27th - October 14th. Maintenance of Standard Gauge Railway. Visits to Dunkerque.

**PIONEER CAMP:** October 14th - 21st. On light Railway E. of Ypres and N. Hooge towards Zonnebeke, Severe shell fire on forward lines.

**FROHEN-LE-GRAND:** November 22nd - December 21st Rest Billots.

**VLAERTINGHE:** December 22nd, 1917 - Feb. 1st, 1918. Light Railway work N. E. of Ypres.

**BEHAGNIES to LARBRET:** On March 21st, 1918 "C" Co'y moved to Mory but immediately withdrew due to enemy advance and shelling. "D" Co'y Billets shelled at Beaumetz-les-Loges on evening of March 22nd. Batt'l H.Q. at Behagnies forced to move due to enemy proximity and shelling. March 26th - April 6th, "A", & "C" Co's employed building rear line defence S. E. of Doullens assisted by 3000 attached troops. During April, May and June new light railways were constructed radiating easterly from LARBRET and existing lines maintained from Arras S., to Essarts. On May 17th "A" Co'y billets bombed wounding 16 men.

"C" Co'y constructed 3rd rail system on Avesnes-le-Comte-Frevent metre gauge railway.

During July and August new lines were completed S.W. of LARBRET through Grenas, Pas, Authie and from Couin northerly to Bienvillers-au-Bois, and new lines were commenced from Puchevillers towards Senlis. During July 9th-23rd "D" Co'y employed rebuilding rail to front line at Neuville Vitasse and Mercatel working at night and subjected to shelling & M.G. fire.

## LOCATION & NATURE OF WORK

**SARTON; BEHAGNES, ESNEES, RIMIX:** August 5th - November 15th. The Battle of Amiens August 8th - 11th. The rapid British advance did not at first affect the work of the Batt'ln but attached labour was greatly increased.

September 4th - 21st: Repairing Standard G. Railway between Achiet-le-Grand and Arras.

September 26th-October 9th: "A" & "D" Co's repairing light railways to Canal du Nord and "B" & "C" Co's maintaining lines to Havrincourt 8 Miles S.W. Cambrai.

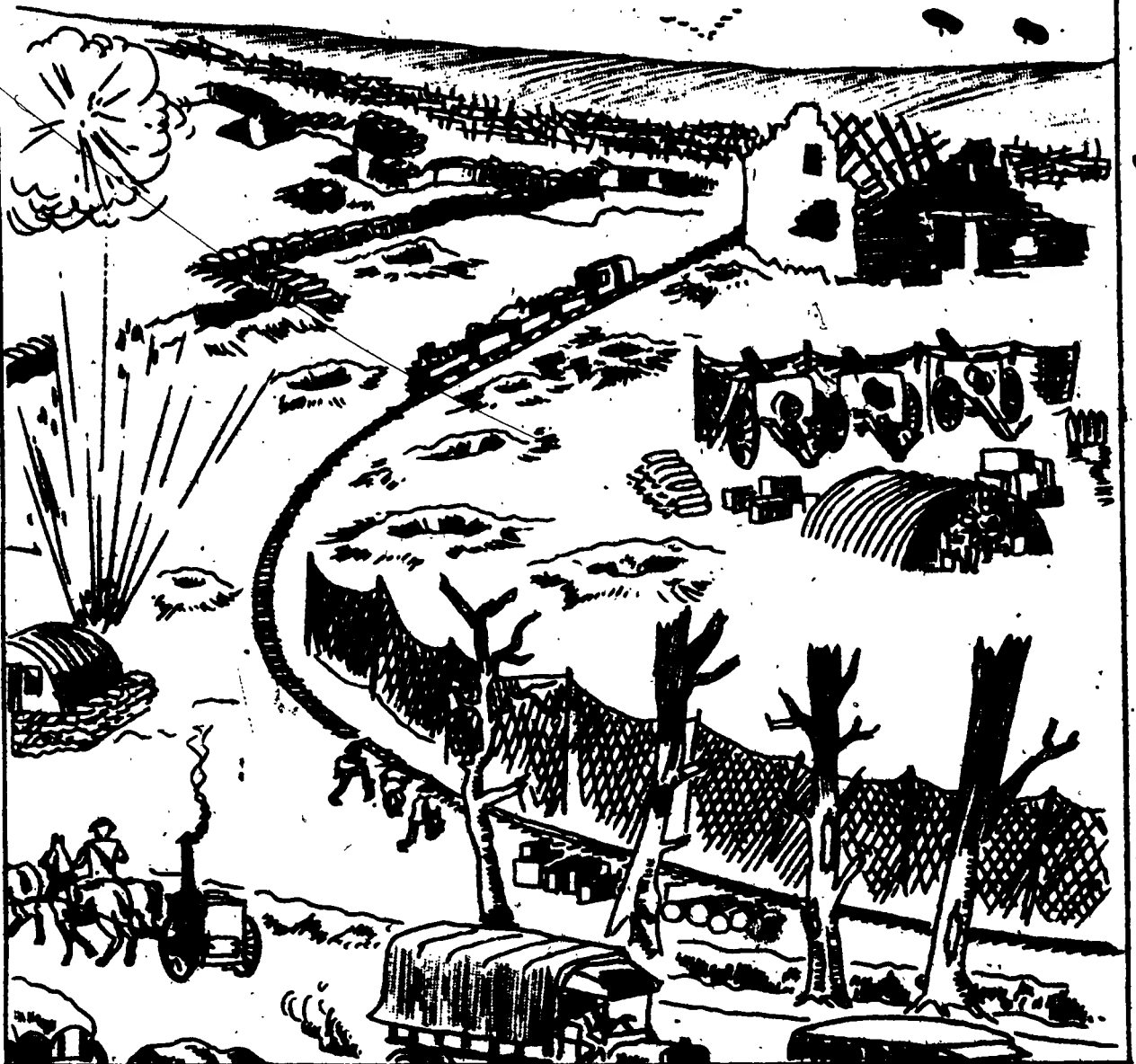
Participation in Battle of Canal du Nord, September 27th-October 1st and to some extent in Battle of Cambrai October 8-9. Battle of Pursuit to the Selle Oct. 9-12. Repairs to Standard Gauge Railways:

Oct.12-23. Cambrai-Caudry Line.

Oct.16-Nov.13th. Cambrai-Solemnes.

Nov.7-13. Solemnes-Le Quesnoy Line.

**ST GHISLAIN:** Nov. 13th - Dec. 19th. Repairing Standard Gauge Railway between Valenciennes and Mons. Extensive track repairs in Yard at St. Ghislain.



# CASUALTIES & REPLACEMENTS

March 13th-25th. 1 Killed 10 Wounded.  
 April & May, 12 Killed, 43 Wounded,  
 1 Died, 5 Injured.  
 June 13th, Battle Mt. Sorrel, 12 Killed,  
 5 missing 53 wounded.  
 June 22nd-23rd, 8 killed, 12 wounded  
 (C Co'y)  
 June Total: 34 Killed, 93 Wounded, 9 Inj.  
 July & August, 4 Killed, 11 Wounded  
 1 Injured.  
 Total 5 Months, March-August:  
 51 Killed 157 Wounded 15 Inj. 1 Died.  
 Note: Official list to end of August  
 1916 indicates:  
 Fatalities 55. Non-Fatal Wounds 246.  
 Total 301.  
 Courcellette: Sept. 15th, 7 Killed,  
 18 Wounded.  
 Sept. 4th-25th due to Battle of Flers-  
 Courcellette: 16 Killed, 44 Wounded,  
 3 Injured, Total 63.  
 October 2nd-15th: 9 Killed, 27 Wounded  
 2 Injured, Total 38.  
 Battle of Ancre Heights and N.E. Cour-  
 cellette and Front line improvements W.  
 La Sars.  
 During nine months, March to November  
 1916. Reinforcements totalled 22 offi-  
 cers and 600 other ranks.

Fatalities for 6 months January-June  
 1917: Died of Injuries 1, Died of  
 Wounds 1, Died 2.

July Casualties 20. 1 Killed.

August 16-18: 25 Wounded, 4 Gassed.

September 1917: 7 Killed, 58 Wounded,  
 8 Gassed. Battles of Menin Ridge &  
 Polygon Wood.

Many casualties due to continuous  
 shell fire and did not specially syn-  
 chronize with Battle dates.

October 13th-November 20th: 18 Killed,  
 75 Wounded, 12 Gassed.

(Passchendaele)

Total Casualties: Battles of Ypres,  
 July 4th to November 20th, 1917, Killed  
 26, Wounded 174, Gassed 24, Injured 1.  
 Total 225.

## A W A R D S

D.S.O. - 2. M.C. - 5. D.C.M. - 2.

Mentioned in Despatches 3. M.M. 30.

Total - 42.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	Total
Killed in Action & Missing	54	14	1		69
Died of Wounds (Enemy Fire)	24	12	5		41
Died Accidental Wounds & Injuries	1	3	4		8
Died of Disease	3	4	5	9	21
<b>TOTAL FATALITIES</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>139</b>
Non-Fatal Wounds (Enemy Fire)	275	200	53		528
" " Accidental Wds. & Injuries	94	58	61		213
<b>Total Casualties, Fatal &amp; Non-Fatal</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>880</b>

	Officers	Other Ranks
Strength of Battalion embarking from Canada Nov. 20th, 1915	30	1091
Base Details " " " Jan. 1st, 1916	1	99
1st Reinf. Draft " " " Mar. 13th, 1916	3	100
2nd " " " Apr. 28th, 1916	4	138
Base Company " " " June 18th, 1916	5	247
	<b>43</b>	<b>1675</b>
<b>Total to pass through unit to date of Demobilization</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>2236</b>

Neuville Vitasse lies south of Arras,  
And Fritz held Neuville Vitasse,  
And a railway ran as seen on the plan  
From Arras to Neuville Vitasse.

The track was bent and shattered and  
rent,  
And shelled with shrapnel and gas,  
But Craig with a smile, said you'll  
fix it in style  
From Arras to Neuville Vitasse.

So we moved to Arras just as bold as  
brass,  
Where the town's a tumble down mass,  
Got put in some cellars, with other  
cave dwellers,  
Then examined the track to Vitasse.

So we went out at night to be out of  
sight  
Of Fritz who sat back on his ass -  
Sweeping the line with metals that  
whine,  
From Arras to Neuville Vitasse.

By Telegraph Hill it gave one a chill  
For he peppered right up the pass  
And he looked down your neck as you  
mended the wreck,  
From the ridge at Neuville Vitasse.

We had some G.E's to help if you  
please,  
And their work was A.1 class,  
So they filled all the holes and re-  
moved all the moles.  
On the grade to Neuville Vitasse.

We worked at our stunt and got away  
front,  
When Boche patrols ramble and pass,  
Of our own front line, there was hardly  
a sign  
T'ween us and Neuville Vitasse.

By the light of the flares, we made the  
repairs,  
We uncoupled the tangle and mass  
Then laid the new steel mostly by feel,  
Right to Neuville Vitasse.

As lead sang by, we wondered why  
The track down there must pass,  
We had no word and it seemed absurd  
To build it to Vitasse.

Then came a chap with a nice red cap,  
He was a bright young ass,  
He whispered low -- a train will go  
Up to Neuville Vitasse.

So we heaved a sigh when we heard just  
why  
We there should work alas  
You were liable to croak and it was no  
joke,  
On the grade to Neuville Vitasse.

Then the Major to show  
How far we should go  
And see the line sixteen, has  
Walked out to the wire  
Under Fritz fire  
And got wise to Neuville Vitasse.

Written in the Expeditionary Force Canteen,  
Officers Rest House & Mess,  
By Pioneer Author unknown.

Contributed by  
Major W. Tait White, M.C.,  
Brooks, Alberta.

Now regulations don't permit,  
To tell the Colonel he's a twit,  
But indirectly things are heard  
And mouth to mouth they pass the word,  
So that the Colonel surely knew  
What they thought amongst the crew,  
And what he learnt did but appear  
To make him grumble, snoop and sneer.

He had the very strangest notions,  
And he balled up promotions,  
He 'chucked good chaps -- two or three,  
(Who couldn't with him quite agree)  
He jumped his favorites in their place  
And did it all with brazen face  
Explaining all with reasons queer,  
And carried on with snoop and sneer.

His awards and punishment,  
Were one long astonishment,  
He soaked Bill Jones for God-knows-why,  
And let off Smith who told a lie,  
He sent up Brown for G.C.M.  
And all the blackguards--pardoned them,  
And during all these acts so weird,  
He mooched around and snooped and  
sneered.

Outside his pets who did his will  
His help to others was quite nil,  
A recommend or honour dear  
For himself he pushed that's clear,  
But for his men who did the work,  
Their recognition he did shirk,  
He in comfort far in rear  
Puttering round with snoop and sneer,

To get his leave he would not fail  
--For others 'twas a different tale,  
When other units got their screw  
Our Colonel couldn't get our due,  
And shelved all kicks to G.H.Q.,  
He let us down the whole way through,  
And all the time he did appear  
To be so wise and snoop and sneer.

Where a shell was like to lob,  
You seldom saw him on the job,  
But when the work was miles in rear  
He fussed around without a fear,  
And made a first rate overseer  
--Directly -- bossing -- far and near,  
And always with his snoop and sneer.

Arresting Majors was his meat,  
He thought he had it on Old Pete,  
But there thank God he met defeat,  
(Though using all his mean deceit)  
So though he won the O.B.E.,  
And other honours that there be,  
All first battalion pioneers,  
Will greet him with impious sneers.

12.12.18.

# NOMINAL ROLL OF FATALITIES 1916-19

## Bn. H.Q. Co'y

154183 Beeson S. Killed 8.4.16  
 154184 Grant Jno. " 13.6.16  
 154577 McDowell R.J., A.L/C " 22.6.16  
 154593 Lorimer S.W. Died 13.2.19  
 736598 Porter W.P. (C.A.S.C) " 1.2.19

## A Co'y

2203456 Beer P. Died 25.1.19  
 437386 Beecher P. " 10.2.18  
 482041 Blair W.T. Missing 13.6.16  
 155001 Bolton L.E.S. Killed 13.6.16  
 105497 Chicoine E. " 19.9.16  
 430172 Cook R. S. D. of W. 8.10.16  
 154305 Decker A. Killed 13.6.16  
 154044 Fussell F.A. Sgt. D. of W. 19.4.17  
 154159 Gatehouse J.W. Killed 20.9.16  
 629378 Gibbs A. D. of W. 18.6.16  
 154098 Guest A.J. Killed 13.6.16  
 101616 Gwynne J.V. D. of W. 4.11.17  
 487361 Hinch C.T. Killed 13.9.16  
 154100 Lamborn D.J., A.L/C D. of W. 30.6.16  
 154122 Landy Thos. " " " 14.6.16  
 2497765 Mita G. " " " 19.10.17  
 154085 McDonald M.R. Killed 13.6.16  
 487371 Parsonage J. " 26.9.17  
 154146 Ramsden H. Died 10.5.16  
 154040 Rowlings B.Sgt. " 26.3.17  
 155041 Smith J.McP. Killed 13.6.16  
 499665 Wallace R.R. " 11.11.17  
 154059 Woods H.C., Corp. Died 13.2.19  
 490647 Thompson R. D. of W. 19.8.17  
 154124 Phoenix S. Killed 26.9.17  
 4330033 Donald M. D. of W. 27.9.17

## B Co'y

180438 Burns A. Died 30.1.19  
 154356 Boucher J. " 13.7.17  
 154258 Balharrie J. Killed 16.9.16  
 629432 Bennett F.C. Missing 13.6.16  
 487290 Biggan A.B. Killed 16.9.16  
 154275 Black J. " 16.9.16  
 154519 Bush A.H. Sgt. " 15.9.16  
 154293 Chappell J.M. Sgt. " 15.9.16  
 154530 Coleman M.A.L/Sgt. " 13.9.16  
 154599 Connor J. L/Corp. " 15.9.16  
 629590 Course H. Missing 13.6.16  
 415788 Day L. D. of W. 2.4.18  
 166316 Donnell J.J. Killed 13.6.16  
 154246 Geldard J. " 16.9.16  
 166773 Goodwin C.H. " 13.6.16  
 154484 Hopgood A.S. D. of W. 4.11.17  
 166345 Horne B.J. Killed 6.6.16

## B Co'y (Cont'd)

487298 Johnstone S.G. Killed 16.3.16  
 154321 Jones C. W. " 11.11.17  
 751485 Marr L. " 21.2.18  
 154349 Monteith P.A. " 13.6.16  
 154433 Muir T.H. L/Corp " 13.6.16  
 154453 McKay E. Died 2.2.17  
 629433 Noble R. Killed 13.6.16  
 490610 Quince H. Died of Wds 4.5.18  
 154332 Ryan W. Killed 7.7.16  
 629472 Ryan J. Died of Wds 20.7.16  
 154482 Sallery W.J. " " " 26.3.18  
 154361 Sinclair D. Killed 26.9.16  
 279379 Skanduk A. Died of Wds 21.9.17  
 154366 Wilkinson H. Killed 8.10.16  
 154370 Williams A.L. Died of Wds 13.9.16  
 841445 Wingate R. Killed 24.10.17  
 154235 Walker G. Died of Wds 7.6.16  
 154453 McKay E. Died 28.1.17  
 (154592) Jones A.S.B. Lieut. " 9.2.19  
 Nicholson H.R. "R.A.F." 24.4.17

## C Co'y

490286 Auton A. L/Corp. Killed 23.11.17  
 155095 Birkett A. Died of Wds 26.3.16  
 154843 Bowden A.F. " " " 26.5.16  
 154984 Brocklebank B.A.L/S Miss 23.6.16  
 490282 Caldwell C. Killed 9.10.16  
 258764 Claggett P.S. Died of Wds 23.10.17  
 155081 Cowen J.S. Killed 22.6.16  
 115134 Dodd F.W. Died of Wds 5.4.16  
 154911 Flynn C. " " " 17.3.16  
 155101 Freeman F.H. Killed 22.6.16  
 414236 Green H.A. Died of Wds 17.6.16  
 154970 Hardy R.W. Corp. Killed 7.8.16  
 487388 Hawes O.E. " 8.10.16  
 154946 Halling H. Died of Wds 23.6.16  
 487277 Jordan C.S. Killed 21.10.17  
 154992 Law H. Died 12.7.18  
 487369 Law A. Killed 9.10.16  
 154871 Milne G.A. Sgt. D. of W. 2.6.16  
 154323 Moody F.P. " " " 10.10.16  
 154983 McCutcheon E.R. Killed 22.6.16  
 490256 McDonald M.D. " 19.9.16  
 487269 Paddy G. " 22.6.16  
 181050 Parsons A.W. Died 13.10.18  
 154913 Pickering J.W. D. of W. 25.10.17  
 154884 Robinson P. " " " 5.6.16  
 154326 Rudland J. Killed 4.10.16  
 154914 Somers G.S. " 22.6.16  
 154798 Thompson R. " 15.9.16  
 487259 Tombs J. D. of W. 9.10.16

# NOMINAL ROLL OF FATALITIES 1916-19

## C Co'y Cont'd.

100003 Tomlinson E. Killed 25.10.17  
 154158 Waldron D. Died of W. 26.5.16  
 155105 Kneafsey J. Died 15.5.19  
 154045 Thompson H.B.R. " 30.8.18  
 Campbell G.H.Lieut. K. 16.5.16  
 Rayner F.A. " D.W. 9.6.16  
 Rose E. L. " K. 6.6.16  
 Ferguson W.B.Lt.RAF, dr'd 7.7.18  
 Ferguson J.F. " "Died 16.10.18

## D Co'y

2502302 Cowles C.W. Died 16.1.19  
 154679 Alward E.S.Died of Wds 3.11.17  
 154638 Anderson J.W.Sgt. D.W. 5.8.16  
 154680 Angus M. " " 16.6.18  
 115335 Bales S.Corp. Killed 31.7.17  
 154685 Blenkinsop E.J.Died Wds 23.7.16  
 155011 Campbell D. " " 6.5.16  
 155023 Carter J. L/Corp. " " 14.4.16  
 154690 Fitzgerald M.F.Sgt.D.In 4.2.18  
 415854 Hamilton A.R. Died of W. 23.5.16  
 446235 Jarvis J.K. Killed 15.10.18  
 415873 Lacey Jas. Killed 19.11.17  
 154705 Lytle J.F. " 19.11.17  
 154663 Maxwell W. " 8.4.16  
 154778 Miles W. Died of Wds. 23.4.17  
 629429 McDonald J.C. Missing 9.10.16  
 415993 Noonan G. B. D. of W. 30.10.17  
 154668 Perry H.L. Killed 8.4.16  
 154719 Porter F. " 15.9.16

## D Co'y Cont'd.

443309 Radmore A. Killed 10.9.16  
 8497744 Reeves C.B. " 19.11.17  
 463168 Riggs W. " 13.6.16  
 2498350 Tunny W. Accid.Killed 25.9.18  
 154780 Webber F.Corp. Killed 13.6.16  
 155022 Carlson C.A. Died 21.3.17  
 487355 Johnston W.J. D. of In. 12.10.17  
 154778 Miles W. D.of Wds. 23.4.17  
 McAllister A.B.Lt.Killed 23.9.17

Company not ascertained.

2500143 Dunster G. Died 9.2.19  
 154880 McKinnon A.Died Accident 31.1.19  
 154161 North J. H. Died 1.3.16  
 487337 Roberts J. " 19.11.16  
 467306 Wells H. A/Cp. " 4.3.17

## ANALYSIS OF FATALITIES

Comp'y	1916	1917	1918	1919	Total
A	14	9	1	2	26
B	23	8	5	2	38
C	27	5	4	1	37
D	12	10	4	1	27
H.Q.	3			1	4
Details	3	1	1	2	7
Total	82	53	15	9	139

The foregoing Statistics & Historical Data were compiled by G. Waterman and Hermon Stevens of Calgary, from a condensed History of the Battalion taken from its War Diary by Lieut. H. Peters of Victoria B. C. to whom we are indebted for all the information herein contained.

With a view of publishing further additions to this History, contributions from ex-members of this Battalion would be much appreciated. Send in your personal experiences or interesting data which you can collect, to Hermon Stevens, 23 Elks Building, Calgary Alberta.

GOD SAVE THE KING!



Frederic C. Leach "C. Coy." 154612.

Harry T. Anderson C. Coy 154985-

Wm Erichton C. Coy. 154.838

O Bech C Coy 155953

A Patterson C Comp. 154837

J L Wilson D Comp 154811

F G Corbett E Comp 154999

W Moore b. Coy 154628

J B Stephens C. Coy 154625-

P D Clarke 154817 E Coy.

W Tarts White Brooks. Alta

A J Smith b. Coy 154840

A J Saunders b. Co.

J H Carey b. Co. 154850

J Miller C Co 154899

E. M. 154848

Walter Ashdown 155000

Harry Smith Rent.

J. W. Russell 154613 Calgary.

J A Spence 154503 Calgary.

W B Hawthorn 154834 C. Co Calgary.

Ala mort 154796

Harry T. Anderson 154985(C) Calgary

CALGARY, ALTA.

Hermon Stevens C. Bay 490261 Calgary,  
By ~~Waterman~~ L.L. 151995 Calgary.